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17	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
18	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
19	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION				
20	JOSEPH RUWE and ELIZABETH ORLANDO, )	No. 07-cv-03679 JSW			
21	Individually and on behalf of all others similarly ) situated,				
22	Plaintiffs, )	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>			
23	v. )	STIPULATION RE: FILING THIRD AMENDED COMPLAINT AND			
<ul><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON ) WIRELESS, )	[PROPOSED] ORDER REVISING PRETRIAL SCHEDULING ORDER			
26	Defendant.				
27					
28					

## **RECITALS**

- 1. Catherine Gellis commenced this consumer class action, in which she alleged that a provision in Verizon Wireless's terms and conditions imposing minimum \$5 late fees is an unlawful penalty, and sought injunctive and monetary relief.
- 2. On October 9, 2008, plaintiff amended her complaint to add Joseph Ruwe and Elizabeth Orlando as additional class representatives. Ms. Gellis was subsequently dismissed as a named plaintiff from the action.
- 3. As a result of facts obtained during investigation and discovery in this action, Mr. Ruwe and Ms. Orlando seek to file a Third Amended Complaint. Plaintiffs seek to add allegations that the \$15 "reconnect" fees that Verizon Wireless charges to subscribers whose service it has impaired as a result of subscribers paying late is an additional illegal penalty in violation of California law. Plaintiffs have asked Verizon Wireless to stipulate to the amendment.
- 4. Verizon Wireless disputes the legal basis for plaintiffs' additional claims and plans to file a motion to dismiss these additional claims. Verizon Wireless has asked for an extended response period due to the press of business and the upcoming holiday season.
- 5. Discovery relating to plaintiffs' claims and Verizon Wireless's defenses will proceed during the period Verizon Wireless challenges whether plaintiffs' additional allegations state claims for which relief may be granted. Verizon Wireless, however, shall not be required to produce information that would be discoverable only with respect to plaintiffs' claims regarding Verizon Wireless's practice of charging "reconnect" fees alleged in the amended pleading, until the court rules on its dismissal motion. Plaintiffs reserve the right to contest Verizon Wireless's position through appropriate means, if they believe that the information would otherwise be discoverable without respect to the additional claims. The parties agree to confer in good faith to try and stage the timing of such discovery to avoid undue burden and expense on either party.
- 6. The parties also agree that with respect to depositions of witnesses who may have information and knowledge pertaining to plaintiffs' claims regarding Verizon Wireless's practice of charging "reconnect" fees alleged in the amended pleading shall be taken, if otherwise appropriate, after the court rules on Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss, in order to avoid

1	potential duplication or inefficiency. Prior to the Court's ruling on the motion to dismiss, Verizon Wireless will determine in good faith whether any such deponent would in fact cause duplicative discovery depending on the outcome of Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss. In the event Verizon Wireless chooses not to produce such a witness (or witnesses) prior to the resolution of its motion to dismiss, it agrees to produce any such witnesses no later than thirty (30) days after the Court rules on Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss.  7. The parties agree that the briefing of plaintiffs' motion for class certification should await the resolution of defendant's anticipated motion to dismiss.
2	Wireless will determine in good faith whether any such deponent would in fact cause duplicative
3	discovery depending on the outcome of Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss. In the event
4	Verizon Wireless chooses not to produce such a witness (or witnesses) prior to the resolution of its
5	motion to dismiss, it agrees to produce any such witnesses no later than thirty (30) days after the
6	Court rules on Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss.
7	7. The parties agree that the briefing of plaintiffs' motion for class certification should
8	await the resolution of defendant's anticipated motion to dismiss.

WHEREFORE the parties stipulate and agree as follows:

## **STIPULATION**

- 1. Plaintiffs may file the Third Amended Complaint, filed concurrently herewith. As named plaintiff Gellis has been dismissed from the case, the action shall henceforward be known as *Ruwe*, *et al. v. Verizon Wireless*.
- 2. Verizon Wireless shall have up to and including January 23, 2009, to file a motion to dismiss or answer the new allegations set forth in plaintiffs' Third Amended Complaint.

  Plaintiffs shall have twenty-one days to file their opposition to defendant's motion to dismiss.

  Defendant shall have fourteen days to reply to plaintiffs' opposition.
- 3. Both parties shall have the right to propound, and shall have the obligation to respond to, discovery while the motion to dismiss is pending. Verizon Wireless, however, shall not be required to produce information that would be discoverable only with respect to plaintiffs' claims regarding Verizon Wireless's practice of charging "reconnect" fees alleged in the amended pleading, until the court rules on its dismissal motion. Plaintiffs reserve the right to contest Verizon Wireless's position through appropriate means, if they believe that the information would otherwise be discoverable without respect to the additional claims. The parties shall meet and confer to attempt to resolve any such issues.
- 4. Depositions of witnesses who may have information and knowledge with respect to plaintiffs' claims regarding Verizon Wireless's practice of charging "reconnect" fees alleged in the amended pleading shall be taken, if otherwise appropriate, after the court rules on Verizon

Wireless's motion to dismiss. Prior to the Court's ruling on the motion to dismiss, Verizon Wireless will determine in good faith whether any such deponent would in fact cause duplicative discovery depending on the outcome of Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss. In the event Verizon Wireless chooses not to produce such a witness (or witnesses) prior to the resolution of its motion to dismiss, it agrees to produce any such witnesses no later than thirty (30) days after the Court rules on Verizon Wireless's motion to dismiss.

5. As a result of these developments, the scheduling order should be modified so as to give plaintiffs sixty (60) days from the date of the court's decision on the motion to dismiss to file their motion for class certification, and other dates shall be modified consistent with that extension. The existing scheduling order shall be modified as follows:

	<b>Current Schedule</b>	<b>Proposed Schedule</b>
Defendant to produce deponents it delayed due to potential overlapping discovery	N/A	Decision on MTD + 30 days
Plaintiff to file motion for class certification	January 30, 2009	Decision on MTD + 60 days
Defendant to file opposition to class cert.	March 31, 2009	Plaintiffs' motion for class cert + 60 days
Plaintiff to file reply in support of class cert.	April 30, 2009	Defendants' opposition to class cert + 30 days
Hearing on motion for class certification	May 15, 2009	TBD
Fact discovery cut-off	June 12, 2009	October 16, 2009
Expert discovery cut-off	August 28, 2009	November 27, 2009
Dispositive motions to be filed	September 15, 2009	December 18, 2009
Hearing on dispositive motions	October 30, 2009	January 29, 2010
Pretrial conference	January 11, 2010	April 14, 2010
Trial	February 1, 2010	May 3, 2010

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(PROPOSED) ORDER 1 Good cause appearing, the Court hereby approves the parties' stipulation and orders that: 2 Plaintiffs may file their Third Amended Complaint in this action, which shall hereafter be 3 known as Ruwe et al. v. Verizon Wireless. 4 Defendant may file its motion to dismiss or otherwise respond to the Third Amended 5 Complaint on or before January 23, 2009. Plaintiffs shall have until February 13, 2009 to file their 6 opposition to any motion which Defendant may file, and Defendant shall file its reply by February 7 27, 2009. The Court reserves March 20, 2009 for hearing on the motion. 8 9 The time for Plaintiffs to file their motion for class certification is extended. Plaintiffs shall have up to sixty (60) days after the Court issues its decision on the motion to dismiss to file their 10 opening brief in support of class certification. Defendant shall file its opposition to the motion 11 within sixty (60) days of the motion being filed, and Plaintiffs shall file their reply within thirty 12 (30) days thereafter. 13 All discovery and dispositive motion deadlines, as well as the date for the pretrial 14 conference and the trial. The new dates are as follows: 15 16 Fact discovery cut-off: October 16, 2009 17 Expert discovery cut-off: November 27, 2009 18 Dispositive motions to be filed: December 18, 2009 19 Hearing on dispositive motions: 20 January 29, 2010 Pretrial conference: April 19, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. April 14, 2010 21 Trial: May 3, 2010 May 10, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. 22 23 Dated: December 2, 2008 24 25 26 27

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